Nixon slips past

By Larry Finley
and Robert Signer

President Nixon and Vice President Spiro T. Agnew slipped past an angry crowd of more than 1,000 demonstrators Tuesday night behind the tightest shield of police protection on Chicago streets since the Democratic National Convention.

Secret Service agents were alerted by a local newspaper of at least one telephone death threat against Agnew.

At one point, the vice president apparently was used to draw the crowd's attention to the south exit of the Conrad Hilton as he departed after the speech-making.

Half an hour later, the President left by another door. But by then, the demonstrators had dwindled away.

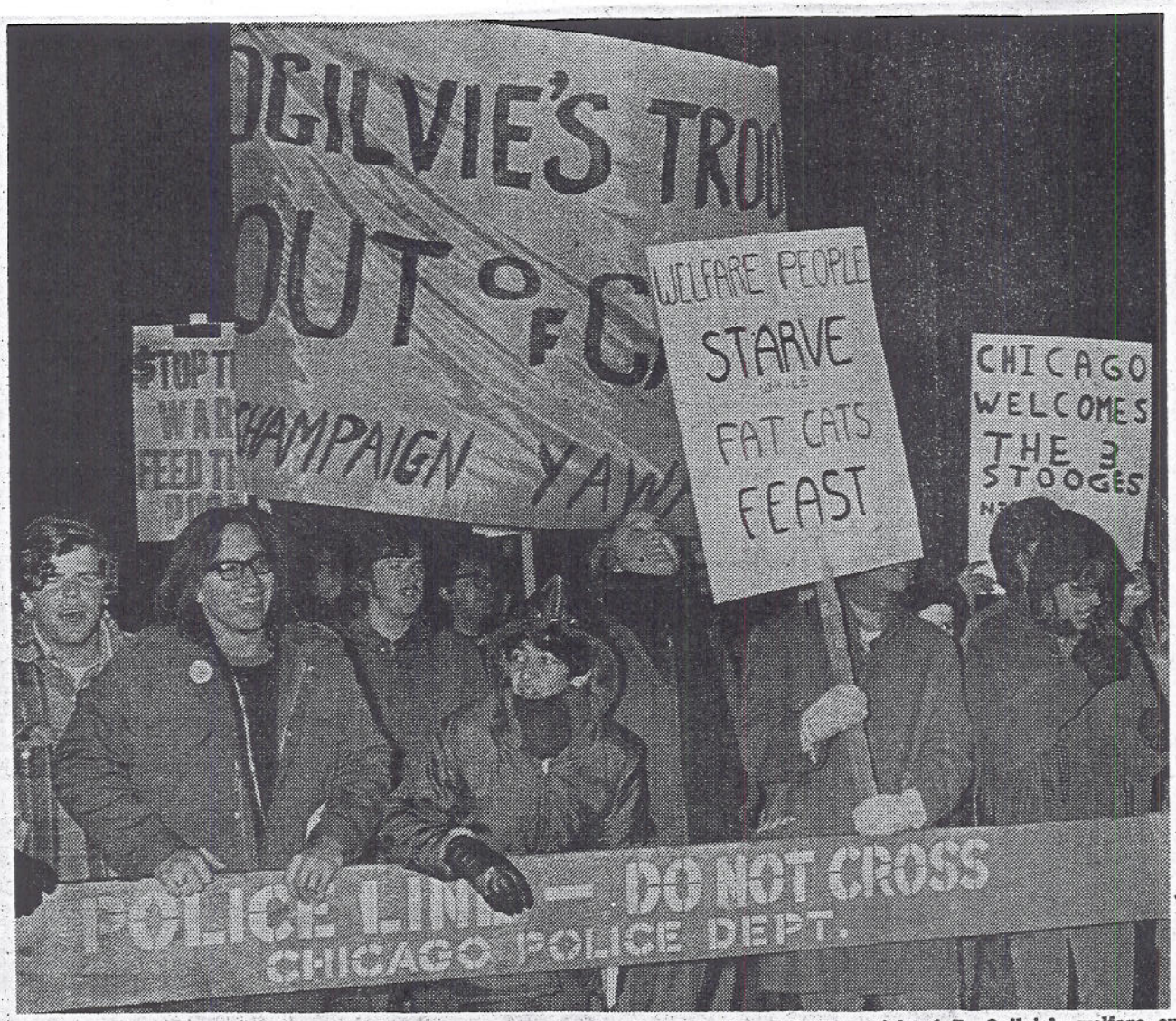
MOST demonstrators never saw the heavily guarded presidential motorcade arrive at the Hilton shortly after 10 p.m. The protesters were confined behind barricades and riot-ready police lines in Grant Park, across Michigan Av. from the front entrance of the Hilton.

From the dimly lit park, demonstrators frequently lobbed eggs and bottles across the street at dinner guests arriving in cabs and limousines.

The only serious incident occurred about 8:20 p.m. when police and demonstrators clashed along the barricade line. Three young men broke through the line, but they were seized immediately by police and removed in patrol wagons.

POLICE said five persons were picked up but only three were charged with disorderly conduct. They were identified as John Edmonson, 19, of 635 N. Sheridan, Waukegan; Ronald Clark, 20, of 270 John St., De Kalb; and Edward Schoen told police he was a Stubitsch, 22, of 5208 S. Menard.

Two others — Warren Schoen, 17, of 9510 N. Keystone, Skokie, and Morton Shafner, 17, of 9515 N. Leamington, Skokie — were released after questioning. student at Niles Twp. High



Demonstrators outside the Conrad Hilton Hotel carry signs against the war and Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie's welfare cutbacks. (Daily News Photo/Edmund Jarecki)

protesters

School.

MOST OF the protesters contented themselves with frequently obscene chants condemning Mr. Nixon and Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie for the Vietnam War, welfare cuts, inflation and alleged racism.

The crowd appeared to become especially active when television lights were flashed on or when elegantly dressed guests pulled up in front of the Hilton.

Some demonstrators "played dead" on the sidewalk in front of the hotel shortly before Agnew arrived. But the group, which wore coolie-type hats and pretended to be Vietnamese peasants killed by American bombers, jumped up and ran across the street to Grant Park when police moved in to break up the protest.

A HANDFUL of protesters — led by Sylvia Kushner, chairman of the Chicago Peace Council — managed to get into the Hilton and stage a brief, peaceful sit-in, which ended after a few minutes with no arrests.

Even inside the banquet rooms themselves, Secret Service men and other security agents could be seen on the fringes of the crowd, checking credentials.

Mr. Nixon and his wife arrived in a motorcade of at least 15 cars, backed up by Chicago police cars, motorcycles and two ambulances. The President did not leave the Hilton until all demonstrators and most of the curiosity seekers had disappeared.